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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1910.

FROM THE LEGISLATURE.

That divorce bill which was conceived in sin, and brought forth in iniquity, has been throttled, and all Virginia breathes freer.

Oysters are still toothsome, and still being talked about. Handle them with care, brothers. Speaker Byrd is boring for oil, and our hope is that he will not strike a "dry well." Good roads are not receiving just the attention they deserve. The general government ignores them, let Virginia follow no such bad example. We do not know that any larger liberties need be given freight trains for Sunday uses, as they seem even now to have the right of way, and no one says nay. Better pay for teachers, rather than better pay for supervision. Our teachers and our children can be trusted to do things without the presence of overseer. If the Old Mother was "real rich" she might increase her pay roll and indulge the luxury of a travelling librarian and other luxuries, but now the old lady should go slow. State-wide prohibition is matter of great import, but the people of the state can be relied on to settle it just right. Don't forget the old soldiers. They will not long be with us, and if it is burden to carry them do so like men. The farmer who sells sweet cider will hardly make any one drunk, and if strong liquors didn't make drunk there would be no objection to a saloon at every cross road in the country. Meat is high, but Virginia need not try to keep pace with soaring prices, and go to raising salaries. If you can make persons property bear its just part of the tax burden, do so and join the immortals. "All men were not born free and equal," but true equality as to taxable values should be easy of attainment. Science is reputable and desirable, but see to it that the scientists don't drive the common sense of the farmers to the rear.

Maryland is Virginia's next door neighbor, and the two should dwell together in unity. What's good for Maryland oyster ought to be good for the Virginia oyster. Don't force the citizens of the counties to go into the import business so long as their wants can be supplied at home. They can't grow bananas, nor pineapples, nor malaga grapes, but they can grow, and have been growing men. If you had the money at your command, of course you would give the women of Virginia all the educational advantages now enjoyed by the men, but as the money may be wanting, you will have to advise more of them to become queens of the home rather than of the school rooms. Give the cities large margin in the management of their own affairs, never forgetting that this is peoples' government. Come home as soon as you can conveniently do so, for the children are eager to open the bundles and the plow handles are ready for the handling.

"THE SOUTHERN WHITES" TO BLAME."

There was some sort of meeting held at a private house in Washington recently, at which Mr. Thomas Nelson Page was presiding officer and to which President Taft and others made addresses. One of the speakers of the evening is reported as saying that the white people of the South are responsible for all deplorable conditions existing in that, no doubt to him, God forsaken portion of the country. There is no report of any reply from Mr. Page to this slander, founded in densest ignorance or darkest malice, and we cannot understand that he did not rebuke the villifier then and there, and at every cost. Mr. Roosevelt may be left in quiet possession of a monopoly of the use of the ugly little word, "lie," but this astonishing statement should have been dealt so warmly as to have brought the blush to the face of the reckless perverter of facts, that is if such folks are capable of sense of shame. When the invading armies had been withdrawn from Southern soil other invasions followed in quick succession, and animated by a spirit more malign than any that ever stirred the soul of soldier on battlefield, and but that the white people met these with a courage born of desperation, and won victories such as are not recorded elsewhere in the annals of time, the South would today be a howling wilderness, a place fit only for savages or wild beasts, instead of being, as it is, the source from which the nation is drawing that power which gives it the balance of trade in its competition with the nations of earth. Mr. Taft knows well that this is true, and has recognized the fact in the discharge of the great trust which has been given to his keeping, but he does not appreciate it as Thos. Nelson Page does. It may be that Mr. Page did not sit quiet in presence of outrage on decency and truth, or it may be that reporters have done some one a great wrong, but if not, then we wait with impatience some explanation. Thomas Nelson Page is not the man to sit quietly and hear the white people of the South grossly, wickedly maligned.

TAFT ON CRITICISMS OF HIS ADMINISTRATION.

"Glad to have been hammered this first year," Roosevelt "an exception to every rule." President Taft in an address to G. A. R. veterans tonight referred to the criticisms of his Administration, and said that he would feel worse for them were it not for the fact that in every Administration, "with the possible exception," he added, "of that of my predecessor, who seems to have been an exception to every rule," there were vigorous attacks of some sort.

"Lincoln had radicals and insurgents to deal with, and he had the device of a time," said the President. "But I would be ashamed to think of comparing the easy year I have just been through with some of the years of darkness he had to suffer. I am glad to have been hammered this first year, because the next three years will be pleasant, no matter what the newspapers say about me."

There are two inexplicable errors of statement in the above—First: Mr. Taft isn't "glad to be hammered." No man is.

Second: Roosevelt was hammered as no other President ever was in the history of the country. The Judicial Chief Executive should be more judicious in statement of facts.

YOUNG MAN, AVOID POLITICS.

A Boston writer, and you know Boston knows it all, dealing with the public men of by-gone, has this to say of the best of them:

"John Hancock was a defaulter to Harvard College, Benjamin Franklin stole post office funds, Samuel Adams 'swiped' part of the taxes he collected, Patrick Henry was an unreliable demagogue, John Adams was a 'trimmer' and George Washington joined the revolt with selfish deliberation."

If such men couldn't stand the glare what will be the fate of the rest of us with the lights in full glow?

"MEN OF CUNNING."

Henry Clay lamented in his day that so many public men were cunning rather than competent. And is it not as true in this day? Was Mark Hanna more than cunning? or Platt? or has Aldrich any other quality? Why was one Ellis recently relieved of service at Washington, and sent to Ohio to look after political fences? He is simply cunning, only that and nothing more. Didn't Cortelyou win his reputation on similar lines? But why multiply names? "The woods is full of them."

If a bill, now before Congress becomes law, Farmville will have to get busy buying mail boxes. The bill provides that after June 30th, 1911, no letter carrier will be allowed to deliver mail at any house unless there is a suitable mail box placed on the outside in convenient place to receive it.

The box business must need a boost, and no doubt a lobby has been at work in its interest. Some 18,000,000 boxes will be needed, and will cost the people \$20,000,000. How many children would that amount of money clothe?

We are advised that the night letter service, recently inaugurated by the Western Union means that after night fall, messages of fifty words may be sent at the regular rate, and to be delivered the following morning. This should be of great interest to the business men of the country. And it is only just that this rich corporation, grown to be rich out of people's money should be making concessions. Learn to condense and you can make good use of fifty words. We doubt if the average business letter is longer.

Bryan leading the prohibitionists of the nation would make a whirlwind of a canvass. Let the women "get busy" and be ready to vote.

"Even when a man is out of debt, there may be some one to whom he owes an apology."

Let Richmond send its commissioner of streets to Farmville and learn how to clean up and keep clean.

When the African hunter meets the king of England, he is going to have the time of his life.

Senator Tillman is evidently a seriously sick man, and can hardly hope again to handle the pitchfork with old-time vigor.

We say again "honesty is the best policy," and yet Solomon said, "there is a just man that perisheth in his righteousness, and there is a wicked man that longeth his life in his wickedness."

Up in Pennsylvania, a daughter-in-law eloped with her father-in-law, and then the deserted husband eloped on the next train with his mother-in-law. The father-in-law alone is left to grieve or go a-gunning.

The venerable and venerated editor of the Index-Appeal in tender and paternal words, warns the Richmond Virginian to "take in its sails or shiver its timbers." To be forewarned is to be forearmed.

Up in Illinois, once the home of the great emancipator, they make furious effort to lynch a negro for snatching a purse from the hand of a white lady. In Farmville, we try to arrest the fiend, lodge him safely in jail, and give him a fair trial.

The people make the laws, and human rights are acknowledged and respected.—Washington Herald.

And when the above was penned wasn't the author thinking of a "theory" and not a "condition?"

A Chilean cruiser recently rescued 88 persons from a sinking vessel, and in so doing, showed that all warships were not made solely for fighting and destroying purposes. Why not let the navies of the world go to sea armed only with authority to save and not to shoot?

Don't let the good people of Newport News worry over the fact that the city hasn't grown in population during the past decade. It grew so fast in the preceding years that it had to stop and catch breath. Farmville doesn't grow much, but when it comes to comfortable and decent living, New York isn't in it.

The gifted editor of the Petersburg Index-Appeal, says Speaker Byrd is one of the great men of the State, and yet the great editor and the great statesman rarely agree on any matter of public concern. And yet a Byrd on wings and in mid-air isn't as free and independent as the Index-Appeal.

Uncle Sam demands good roads, says a contemporary. Uncle Sam makes no such demands. He has the money and the men and could have good roads if he really and truly wanted them. Let the voters who do want good roads force Uncle Sam to do his duty in this regard.

A search warrant couldn't find a vacant store in Emporia.—Emporia Independent.

And yet we know of a Virginia Editor, who spent a day and night in this hustling town digging for gold, and struck nothing but mud holes. But the "Doctor" was not then feeling the pulse of the place, nor prescribing for its people.

"The glorious privilege" of having an Independent.

Gov. Hughes, of New York, may be a good man, a good Governor and a great lawyer, but when he says he can't live on \$10,000 a year he adds nothing to his fame. Let the divorced wives of the vulgar rich indulge in such boasting, for that's at the bottom of it, and let a gentleman of culture and common sense refrain. It is hard to estimate the evil of such announcement from such source. The man who can't live on ten thousand a year would shrivel in soul on a million.

Mr. Taft said to a number of women who stormed Washington with the request to be allowed to vote, "If you want to vote move over to Maryland, or out to Cincinnati, or to some other good place." The rest of us have long known that Washington was not noted for its goodness, but did not expect the President, at least while in office, to confess to the fact. And was he just safe in directing them to Cincinnati with the hope of finding the "good place." If so, that city should be instituting suits for slander or libel.

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Your Money Back if You Are Not Satisfied.

FREEAR & GARLAND, Druggists, Farmville.

We learn from the Times-Herald that Newport News is to have a new high school building, and a jail all bright with sunlight.

"Was and was." The consumers are now blamed for high prices for the things they consume. The dirty bird befouling his own nest, "beat to a frazzle."

"Almost" anyone can tell us how we might have succeeded after we have failed." And the mere fact that failure gives sorrow is knockout blow to that divinity-shaping end about which we hear so much.

Eight hundred thousand eggs reached New York by a tramp steamer the other day, shipped from Holland, Germany and France, and knocked the bottom out of the egg market. And yet the tariff on eggs is 5 cents a dozen.

Starting out with only 25 cents, Joseph Klein, aged 17, of McKeesport, returned to that city after visiting England, Germany and France. He landed in New York a few days ago with six cents in his pocket. "America for me," said Klein. "The old country is too slow."

A new official is being asked for in Richmond. This time a travelling librarian. In due time a secretary for the librarian will be demanded, and then an assistant. This seems to be the height of present day statesmanship, to make room for other pets, and then add to the salary. Yes, the people are long-suffering and forbearing.

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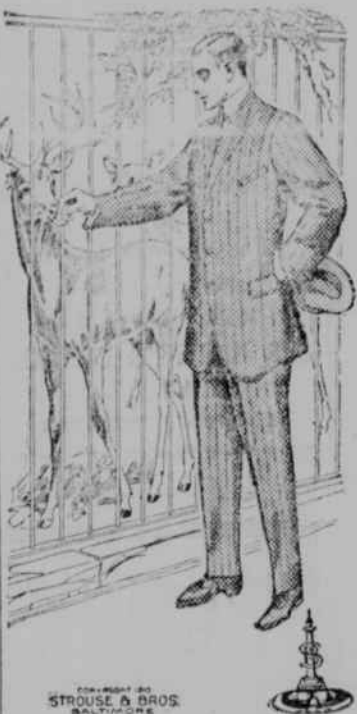
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Feb. 17, 1910.

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Bacon, shoulders, 13c
Beans, white, \$2.00 to \$2.25.
Peas, Black Eye, \$2.00.
Peas, Black, \$2.00.
Butter choice, 20c
Eggs, 30c to 25c.
Flour, First Patent, \$6.75.
" Second " \$6.25
" Extra " \$5.75
Hog Offal, Spare Ribs, 8c to 10c.
" Back bone, 8c to 10c.
Onions, per bushel, 80c to 90c.
Pork, dressed, 9c.
Potatoes, Irish, per bus., 80c to \$1.00
Beef, on hoof, per lb., 5 1/2c to 4c.
Veal, " " " 5c to 6c.
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Lamb " " 5c to 6c.



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